



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 2, 2002

S. 2928

Daniel Patrick Moynihan Lake Champlain Basin Program Act of 2002

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on September 26, 2002*

SUMMARY

S. 2928 would establish the Lake Champlain Basin Program to protect the Lake Champlain basin region from environmental damage. This legislation would authorize the appropriation of \$55 million over the 2003-2007 period for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Department of the Interior, the Department of Commerce, and the Department of Agriculture. EPA would use these funds to make grants to states, regional water pollution control agencies, and other public and nonprofit agencies to support the implementation of management strategies for protecting the environmental integrity of the Lake Champlain basin region. The other agencies would use these funds to provide financial and technical assistance, such as water quality monitoring and management of fisheries and other aquatic resources.

CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would cost \$55 million over the 2003-2007 period, assuming appropriation of the specified amounts. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues. S. 2928 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$55 million over the 2003-2007 period, assuming appropriation of the amounts authorized for each year. Those estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for similar activities. The estimated budgetary impact of S. 2928 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars

2003 2004 2005 2006 2007

CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION^a

Lake Champlain Basin Program					
Authorization Level	11	11	11	11	11
Estimated Outlays	11	11	11	11	11

a. EPA has not yet received a full-year appropriation for 2003. The Lake Champlain Basin Management Conference received an appropriation of \$3 million in 2002.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 2928 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. States in the Lake Champlain basin would benefit from grants authorized to implement a plan to improve the environmental integrity of the Lake Champlain watershed. Any costs to participants in these programs would be incurred voluntarily.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On October 1, 2002, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 1070, the Great Lakes Legacy Act of 2002, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works on September 26, 2002. The Daniel Patrick Moynihan Lake Champlain Basin Program Act of 2002 was included in that version of H.R. 1070, which would authorize the appropriation of \$55 million over the 2003-2007 period.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:

Federal Costs: Susanne S. Mehlman

Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Susan Sieg Tompkins

Impact on the Private Sector: Cecil McPherson

ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:

Peter H. Fontaine

Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis